



Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service
Pest Detection and Management Programs – Program Update

Program: *Phytophthora ramorum*

Date: February 22, 2005

On February 16, 2005, the USDA APHIS PPQ confirmed the detection of *Phytophthora ramorum* in a camellia sampled at a large Los Angeles County production nursery. The sample was submitted by the California Department of Agriculture.

Plant shipments from the nursery have been halted. Suspect plants will be destroyed. The nursery will be inspected, sampled, and tested in accordance with the PPQ Confirmed Nursery Protocol.

The nursery had previously been found positive in March 2004. Infected plants and other plants at risk of infection were destroyed and the nursery was surveyed for evidence of infection. Following the requirements of the Confirmed Nursery Protocol, the nursery was partially released to ship some plants in April 2004. It was fully released to ship plants in August 2004.

Between August 2004 and January 2005, the nursery shipped over 87,000 plants to 339 nurseries throughout the United States. The nursery has provided APHIS with a list of customers that received plants. APHIS and state inspectors will be tracing these shipments.

This is the first report of a positive nursery in 2005.